

# The Daily Gazetteer!

SATURDAY, APRIL 15. 1738.

91: 07 6.

Reflections on a late Paper on the Army, and the Promotion of Officers therein.



It hath always pass'd for a strong Argument of Weakness and want of Rectitude in any Party, when it hath been discovered to act upon contrary and irreconcilable Principles. Truth and Virtue are always the same; whereas Vice and Falshood continually vary Shapes, as having a Chance for passing undiscovered, but by frequently changing their Disguises. Whoever is well acquainted with the English History, may easily call to Mind Instances of this Nature, especially among the false Patriots in the Reign of King William. Sometimes they affected to talk in the Style of Republicans, and to affect no less Zeal for the Commonwealth, than they were pleased to express against its Herd: At other times they were altogether as vehement in Defence of the Prerogative; that is, when they had a Glimpse of managing it for their own Advantage: Ever clamouring against the King's Ministers, and endeavouring all they could to expose, in the most ludicrous Lights, his Administration, till they produced Changes disadvantageous to the People, and sometimes also produced such Distractions in the great Council of the Nation, as compell'd the Commons to Petition, that either the Care of the Publick might be left to the King, or that those who pretended to be its Guardians, would lay by their private Jealousies and Animosities, and take Care of it in Earnest.

The great Topick in those Days was the Army, all who disliked the King and his Administration, bent their Endeavours to get it disbanded, under Pretence, that it was inconsistent with our Constitution; whereas they well knew, that what they demanded was utterly inconsistent with our Safety. Since that time the same Game has been everlastingly carried on, and every Opposition hath endeavoured to depolish the Nation of a necessary Guard, (for when it is unnecessary, we may be assured it will be laid aside) that they might deprive the Administration of a Force sufficient to support it in the Execution of its Duty, and the Service of the Publick. This too they have done with a View to make their Court to the People, as if they were angry with the Army purely upon their Account, and by disbanding it, sought to ease them in their Properties by delivering them from Expence, and to secure their Liberties by leaving them no longer under the Protection of Soldiers.

The Malecontents of the present Age have not failed to repeat, with great Warmth, and with much additional Scurrility, whatever any of their Predecessors may have advanced before on this Subject; yet by an unaccountable Fatality, and through an earnest Desire of improving upon their Masters, they have so mismanaged this Matter, as that sometimes they have proposed, in order to secure the Government from any ill Effects which might flow from a standing Army, to render that Army independent of the Government. Of late again they have taken a new Notion into their Heads, and have suggested that to be dangerous in the Army, which themselves and their Predecessors cry'd up as an excellency in the Militia, which they would substitute in the Stead of the Army, viz. Vesting with Commands therein such as by Birth and Fortune have large Shares and great Interest in their Country. To reconcile these Positions is impossible; to account for them perhaps may not be so difficult.

When sometime ago his Majesty was pleased to make some Alterations in the Commands himself had bestowed in his Armies, an insolent Paper was published, reflecting on his Majesty's Wisdom and Justice, on such as accepted Commissions, and on such as kept those which they had accepted long before. And to what End was all this? Why truly to shew the impotent Rage of a Party ready to receive and care for all who aspire to Power, and all who are deprived of it. That it would be extremely dangerous to have the Power of giving or taking away Commissions in

any but the King, as well as perfectly Anticonstitutional, appeared clearly from the Behaviour of the Faction upon this Occasion; who, if they had had a tenth Part of that Interest which they would have the World believe they have, would not have failed to have made use of it on this Occasion to create such Disturbances, and to inspire the Army with such Principles as might have prejudiced the Publick, and have made even parliamentary Forces dangerous. But when this Plot failed, when it was plainly perceived that the Army in general saw through their Cobweb Devices, and were resolved not to sacrifice to the Interests of a few private Persons the Loyalty they owed their King, and that Fidelity which was due to their Country, then this Matter was let fall, and we have since heard no more of Addresses to the Army.

A Transaction of a very late Date has so far exasperated these Men, tho' of the most legal and laudable Nature, that losing all Temper and Patience, they have bid adieu to all their ancient Kindness for Soldiers in the Service of their Country, and have attack'd the whole Army in the most abusive manner, because his Majesty hath been graciously pleas'd to give a Commission to the Grandson of him, whom they wanted Words to magnify sufficiently, when they last wrote upon this Subject; without considering the Times when these Papers were published, it would be absolutely impracticable to conceive on what Motives they were written, or what the Writers would be at. And after all, these Chronological Circumstances serve only to shew, that Rage and Disappointment will make Men say any thing, how wild and extravagant soever it be, and however contradictory to Principles which themselves have heretofore maintained, and maintained as indubitably true, and of the highest Importance.

We have been told, that most States have been ruined by mercenary Armies commanded by mere Soldiers of Fortune, Men who looked upon their Commissions to be their Freeholds, and who were consequently desirous to bring their fellow Subjects to hold by the same Tenure. That is by the Sword. We have been told, that the Source of that Intolerance with which the Army raised by the Parliament in 1641, used their Masters, was the Self-denying Ordinance, whereby Men of great Credit and large Interest in their respective Counties, were removed from their Commands, which were supply'd by Soldiers of Fortune, Men who knew no Cause but Interest, nor had any thing farther in View than their Pay. But if all this be true, how wise and safe are those Measures which his Majesty hath ever taken of promoting Men of Birth, Merit and Estates, to the greatest Commands in the Army, as Men on whom himself and his Subjects might safely rely, because their Interest as Englishmen was superior to their Interest as Soldiers. Yet at the same time his Majesty hath always paid so great a Regard to Seniority and personal Service in Officers, as hath abundantly satisfy'd all Men of Prudence and Probity in the Army, and demonstrated that his Majesty in other Promotions did no more than was requisite to maintain a proper Dependency of the National Forces upon himself and the Nation.

As to the Noble Person himself, whose Promotion hath so much disquieted the Party, I am at a Loss to conceive how he hath offended them. Every Nobleman in the Kingdom may surely receive Marks of Favour and Confidence from his Prince, without justly incurring the Dislike of any of his fellow Subjects, since such Dislike can only be founded on Disloyalty or private Prejudice. As to the first, the Malecontents themselves are not yet arrived at such a Pitch of Intolerance as to acknowledge it; and as to the latter, the amiable Qualities possessed by the Noble Lord of whom I speak, make it altogether improbable. To what then shall we ascribe that Virulence and Indecency, evident in every Paragraph of a Paper lately written on the State of the Army, surely to the want of Power in this People to Exalt, Abuse, Promote or Remove as they think fit, without which it seems they are determin'd never to be quiet. It is true, these Invektives may be borne with tolerable Patience, since it is impossible they should have any ill Effects upon the People, or give the least Uneasiness

to the illustrious Person to whom they refer. No Man of ordinary Understanding will need the Proposal of any Arguments to induce his Approbation of conferring a military Honour on a Nobleman, whose immediate Ancestor raised the military Fame of this Nation to its greatest Height. On the other hand, a Person happy in Dignities of all Kinds, such as are derived from Birth, from Title, from Fortune, from his Prince's Favour, and which is still more, from personal Virtue and the Applauses of all good Men; how can he be at all affected with the Passion, Insolence and Frenzy of a Faction, irritated by repeated Disappointments, and disappointed merely because they were continually seeking to lessen the publick Safety, by disturbing the publick Quiet. He must surely look upon it as an Addition to his Honour, that such People consider them in a malicious and envious Light; for no true Patriot but must perceive with Satisfaction, that those who confess themselves no longer his Friends, are at the same time Enemies to their Prince and to their Country.

R. FREEMAN.

## HOME PORTS.

Southampton, April 12. Since my last arrived the John and Richard of Chichester, Clark, from Lisbon; the Jane, of and from Guernsey, Pitton; the Hellena of Southampton, Easton, from Rotterdam.

Pool, April 12. Just now came in the Robert, of and for this Port, Beef, from Rotterdam.

Deal, April 13. Wind N. E. Came down and sailed the Magdalen, Crawford, for Cadiz. Arrived the Lydia, Spilman, from Cadiz. The outward bound Ships sailed last Night. No Ship in the Downs.

Gravesend, April 13. Passed by here the Dursley Man of War, Smith, from Lisbon; the Isabella, Bruce, from Cadiz; the Brooke, Cowley, from St. Christopher's; and the Braganza, Lyon, from Lisbon.

## LONDON.

Last Saturday Thomas Scegg, Jun. a Quaker of Hitchin, coming from Hertford Market, was attack'd near Sheffieldberry by a single Highwayman well armed, who took from him a considerable Sum, and afterwards rode towards Hertford very gently. Upon this the Quaker pushed forward to a Gentleman's House, where he got a Gun, leaving the Value thereof in Money, which he had luckily concealed from the Highwayman, and pursues his Affair, overtakes him, and commands him forthwith to Refund, or expect a Discharge of his Piece. The Highwayman, terrified with his Threats, threw down his Money in the Road, and made off with great Precipitation, leaving the valiant Quaker Master of the Field and his own Money.

Yesterday 27 Prisoners were tried at the Old Baily, one whereof was capitally Convicted, viz. Joseph Golding for robbing William Burrows on the Highway. Thirteen were cast for Transportation, and 13 Acquitted.

High Water this Day	Morning	Evening
at London Bridge.	06 41	07 07

Bank Stock 140 1-half. India 169 1-4th, 170, 169 1-half. South Sea 98. Old Annuity 110 1-4th. New ditto 108 1-4th to 3-8ths. Three per Cent. 103 1-4th. 7 per Cent. Loan 109. 5 per Cent. ditto 97. Royal Assurance 109. London Assurance 14 7-8ths to 15. African 13 3-4ths. India Bonds 5 l. 16 s. Prem. South Sea ditto, 1 l. 10 s. Premium. Bank Circulation 2 l. 2 s. 6 d. Prem. Salt Tallies 1 to 3 Prem. English Copper 3 l. Welsh ditto 15. Three 1-half per Cent. Exchequer Orders 5 1-half per Cent. Prem. Three per Cent. ditto 1-half per Cent. Premium. Million Bank 125.





Whereas Elizabeth Morgan, the Wife of Edmund Morgan of the Town of Bedford, Esq; hath, ever since the 23d of March 1737, withdrawn herself from her said Husband's House, and went away with a lusty tall Man, about six Foot three Inches high, lately a Trooper, and took away with her several Things of Value, unknown to her said Husband: This is therefore to give Notice to all Persons whatsoever, not to entertain or harbour the said Elizabeth Morgan, for that her said Husband will not pay any Debts she shall contract; and if any Person or Persons will inform the said Edmund Morgan where his said Wife can be found, so that she may be secured, shall receive as a Reward the Sum of two Guineas, to be paid by me Edmund Morgan. And whoever shall harbour or entertain the said Elizabeth Morgan, will be prosecuted for so doing.

Note: She is a short, thick-set, full chested, fresh colour'd Woman, speaks very thick, and went away in a black Velvet Cap, a long Scarlet Cloak, and a Crimson Damask Gown.

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